



# *Garden Club of Buzzards Bay*

## *From the Ground Up*

February 2022

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### **Presidents Message**



Dear all,

I hope you are well and making your way through the winter. For those of us still in New England, I am glad to see the days getting longer bit by bit. For all of us, I am glad to be hearing about at least a possibility that we are passing the worst of the pandemic and may soon move on to a more stable, understandable situation. Fingers crossed. At GCBB, we have some nice things to think about....

Although we are very much saddened to lose our longtime member Timmy Shapiro, we are happy to be able to help honor her by accepting memorial donations in her name as requested by her family. In the coming months we will be working with her family to determine a use for the Timmy Shapiro Fund that will help the community in a way that would resonate with Timmy.

We have a terrific lineup of meetings for the remainder of 2022. Something for everyone, some virtual and some in-person, all interesting. A complete calendar is further on in this newsletter. Please take a look – there have been several changes since the notebooks were published, so this new calendar is the definitive word at this point. I am delighted to report that **our club contribution to the GCA Scholarship Fund this year has been made in honor of Janet Sherwood.** Janet joined our club in 2000, and since then has been a strong supporter of our plant sale, boxwood collection and the former Civic Garden and club library. From encouraging us to “dig and divide” to hosting plant sales in her garden, Janet has personally raised a considerable amount for our local grants program. Her keen interest in plants has led her to design, and constantly redesign, her wonderful bijou garden in Nonquitt, displaying well-honed horticultural skills. We’re so glad she’s one of us.



Last, but not least, our greenhouse is filling with new plants, and our committees are working in many ways to help our club flourish. We are coming through a hard time with aplomb!

Many thanks for all you do,  
*Janet*

PS: If you have an interest in volunteering with the GCA at the zone or national level, there is a self-nomination form on the [GCA website](#).

PSS: Please remember this is the time to be thinking about new members for our 2022 provisional class—who do you know who likes gardens and might be interested in a convivial, interesting group?

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### Changing of the Seasons

February is the month of groundhogs, valentines, presidents, and the “snow moon”. With that in mind I'd like to remind you to enjoy what is typically our snowiest month of the year. Share your heart with everyone around you...Valentines for all!

Honor those who have tried to manage the often unmanageable job of caretaking to this country. Make wishes on the full moon for the goodness and health of one another. Let the groundhog remind you to make certain your pets are safely tucked inside on the cold days ahead. And feed the birds!



Laura and I would like to wish you a February rich with yummy chocolate, kindness of friends and strangers but also health and ease as we navigate the depth of winter weather.

- *Linda Cornell*

## Committee News

### **Plant Sale Committee**

Submitted by Cheryl Gamsby and Anne Heller, 2022 Plant Sale Co-chairs



### **Plant Sale - May 12-13, 2022 at the Greenhouse**

Plans for the Garden Club's annual plant sale have been germinating, and we're excited to share the details. This year's format marks a return to the Club's traditional sale location at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House and will result in some innovations that we hope members will appreciate. We also plan to continue giving members the opportunity to pre-order perennials and herbs as part of the sale.

Because of the constraints of the County Street neighborhood, members, family, friends, and RJD neighbors will be invited to shop. It will also be open to the public, but we don't plan to advertise it widely – we'll be depending on members to spread the word!

Members will be free to purchase as many plants as they wish. The greenhouse team has selected some interesting specimens to appeal to the desires of our more discerning shoppers (our members). (See below for a list of our greenhouse residents.)

Last year's pandemic-related innovation of offering members the opportunity to pre-order perennials from Sylvan Nursery has been expanded to include herbs. Thanks to Tina Read, members have already had a chance to place their herb orders. We'll be circulating a curated list of perennials selected by Linda Cornell and Nan Sinton in mid-to late March.

**Plant Sale hours:**

**Thursday, May 12, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. & 3:00-6:00 pm.**

**Friday, May 13, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

**Location: Greenhouse, Coach House and Patio at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House**

Offerings at the sale will include annuals and tomatoes grown in our greenhouse, succulents, herbs, and selected perennials donated by our members.

It's impossible to predict what our world will look like in May, but we believe that with masking, social distancing, and open doors, we'll be able to provide our shoppers with a safe experience and generate income for the Club. You'll be getting regular updates on the sale in the next few months. If you have any questions in the meantime, let us know.

Annuals:

Acalypha chenille firetail  
Alternanthera Burgundy Thread  
Black and Blue Salvia  
Coleus (assorted)  
Convolvulus tricolor Royal Ensign  
Emilia coccinea (tassel flower)  
Geranium Maestro Idols White  
Geranium Patriot Evening Glow  
Helichrysum petiolare Lemon  
Super Sweet 100's  
Ipomoea Margarita  
Ipomoea tricolor Clark's Heavenly Blue  
Lotus vine  
Marigold Strawberry Blond  
Moonflower \*  
Nasturtium Moonlight  
Petchoa Supercal Blue  
Petchoa Supercal Royal Red  
Scaevola Pink Blessing  
Strobilanthes Persian Shield  
Tithonia Torch (Mexican sunflower)

Tomatoes:

Bush Beefsteak  
Black Cherry  
Caspian Pink  
Kellogg's Breakfast  
Mortgage Lifter  
Paul Robeson  
San Marzano  
Sungold

"I have seen women look at jewelry ads with a misty eye and one hand resting on the heart, and I only know what they're feeling because that's how I read the seed catalogs in January."

— Barbara Kingsolver



## Plant Sale Herb Pre-Order

Submitted by Tina Read

The Plant Sale Herb Pre-Order was a huge success! We have over 200 plants ordered by our members. Thank you! 🙏🙏

## Horticulture Committee

Submitted by Susan McLaren

The Horticulture Committee met Wednesday in the greenhouse to experiment with winter seed sowing using plastic milk jugs and clamshell boxes (eg. for salad greens) as containers. These act as “mini-greenhouses” that can be placed outside in the elements until seeds germinate and grow and are ready to repot or plant in the garden. It’s a great method for growing perennial seeds that need a cold period (stratification) but also works for annuals that will wait until light and temperature conditions are right for germination. We used a variety of different kinds of seed people had saved from their gardens or old seed packets, etc. Ruth Furman also supplied a mix of pollinator seeds that will be used later to start a pollinator garden at Buttonwood Park.

Here’s a link to the [GCA website](#) that explains this method in detail. Check it out and give it a try yourself!

Some of us are also growing Microgreens again. We used seeds of kale, broccoli, mixed greens and mizuna and planted them thickly in a tray. These are grown ***inside*** with strong light and ready to harvest and eat in two weeks or less. Very tasty and nutritious! You can grow your own or buy them from Sid Wainer at exorbitant prices.



Gail with a clamshell box of planted seeds and a tray of Microgreen seeds



Seeded containers spending the winter outside (let it snow!)

Microgreens ready to harvest



## Grants Committee

Submitted by Gig Lang

The Grant Committee recommended and the Executive Committee approved grants to the following organizations for 2022:

- Buttonwood Park Zoological Society: plantings in their extended patio.
- Mass Audubon at Great Neck Wildlife Sanctuary-Wareham: ongoing project to re-wild the footprints on Campus Lawn.
- Our Sister's School: key plantings, maintenance and harvesting tools.
- YMCA South Coast Sharing the Harvest Community Farm: supporting the continued transition to no-till & regenerative farming practices.
- Youth Opportunities Unlimited: tools and supplies for 2022 growing season.

The total amount allocated for grants was \$2000.00

If any member in the club would like to recommend an organization all are welcome to apply. Please give the information to Gig Lang.

In the committee discussion in regard to the grants we came to the realization that some of the organizations ask us for tools. Lisa Mellgard, who is on the committee, mentioned that she was donating her tomato cages to Our Sister's School and the committee thought it would be a great idea to ask members of the GCBB to donate any tools they no longer use. Details to follow.

### **Archives Committee**

Judi dug up this gem from the Archives:

A Toast to the Greenhouse (20th Year, 1973)

By Phebe Prescott (Mrs. Oliver Prescott)

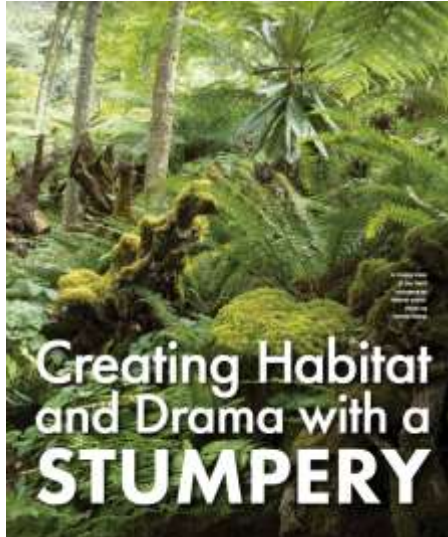
Sue is off to Rare Plants  
Julia's moved away  
But of our first six members  
Four are tops in GCA (*referring to Sue U., Sarah D., Julia F., Mary P-W*)  
For twenty years we've prospered  
Our plant sake is supreme.  
All members make the Greenhouse  
Cheers to our splendid scheme!

Polly's off to Portugal,  
Phebe's off to Greece,  
Simmie's in Antigua,  
Anne P is off for Nice  
Sivvy's been in Florida,  
Ros will surely go,  
Anne D. just returned from there,  
Angelica from Stowe,  
Libby went to Europe,  
Julia to the North,  
Hilda's going to Georgia,  
Eddie's back and forth,  
Ginny, Sue and Janet  
Have plans they do not air,  
Mary leaves for Pink Sands,  
And Sara for the Fair,  
M. Kennedy is a traveler,  
Bermuda looks for Kay,  
Such is our Greenhouse schedule—  
But, we water every day!

## Features



We hope each of you had time to open the email from The Garden Club of America on Wednesday, January 5th to view the latest issue of [The GCA's 2022 Winter Bulletin](#). It features a must see article featuring our own Nan Sinton and Fran Levin: **Creating Habitat and Drama with a Stumpery.**



“In 2005 Nan Sinton, Garden Club of Buzzards Bay, Zone I, recycled stumps found on the property as sculptural accents in the stumpery she designed for the GC of Buzzards Bay former President Fran Levin in North Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Stumperies, Nan says, are ‘an expression of respect for what you find on your property, objects of art that give a sense of the long life a tree brings to place. You can...make a memory with what Mother Nature gives you. The gift of having a piece of land can be magnified by respecting the wood, the life, of the trees there’ “.



“Texture and form play off one another in the stumpery designed by Nan Sinton for Fran Levin, both of CG of Buzzards Bay, Zone 1 (Photo by Nan Sinton)”



CAPE COD  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
Agriculture & Horticulture



MASTER GARDENER  
ASSOCIATION OF CAPE COD

## 2022 BACKYARD HORTICULTURE

Whether you are a life long gardener or you are someone who might be looking to dabble in gardening, these classes have something to offer everyone.

Backyard Horticulture is a gardening course that caters to all levels of gardeners. The courses are taught by experienced Master Gardeners and covers a wide variety of topics. Common topics include:

- Container Gardening
- Gardening for Pollinators
- Herb Gardening
- Injury Prevention
- More Garden Less Lawn
- Natives & Invasives
- Pruning, Seed Starting
- Soil & Composting
- Vegetable Gardening

The Master Gardener's are offering two separate classes this year. One will be held in person at the Harwich Community Center and the other will be held via Zoom.

Harwich classes will be held on Fridays from 1:30 to 4:30 pm beginning February 4 through April 1. Each class includes multiple presentations and time for discussion and questions. This course includes 8 sessions and the fee for this program is \$80.

[Click here to register](#)

Virtual Backyard Horticulture will be presented live through Zoom on Thursdays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm beginning February 10 through March 31. Each class includes two presentations and time for discussion and questions. The fee for this program is \$65.

[Click here to register](#)



CONTACT US  
Cape Cod Cooperative Extension  
508-375-6690

[www.capecodextension.org](http://www.capecodextension.org)

Horticultural Clinic  
508-375-6700

[gardeners@barnstablecounty.org](mailto:gardeners@barnstablecounty.org)



To register for the in person Harwich class click [here](#)  
To register for the Virtual Backyard Horticulture click [here](#)

## Accolades



In this month's accolades we wanted to give a shout out to Margaret Forbush for her perseverance at mastering the new heat/vent system in the recently renovated greenhouse. I personally have called her almost every Sunday morning with questions about the controls and without fail she comes back with the appropriate answers or she arrives at the greenhouse to continue to unwrap the mystery of the workings. The instruction manual is written for the professional greenhouse grower which challenges those of us who are not professionals BUT Margaret has indeed mastered the challenge. Hats off to our Greenhouse Chair as she spearheads us through this new and exciting year. Thank you Margaret!!



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA

## Garden Club of America website

Looking for a good video on planning a garden? Visit GCA Members Area and under Videos & Publications you'll find Exclusives: Fresh Picks to watch [“Planning Your Kitchen Garden for the Year” with Nicole Burke](#). Nicole breaks down the process of planning and creating a kitchen garden into four logical steps. “From potagers to planters on your balcony, Nicole’s kitchen gardens have one thing in common: an extended growing season. Nicole gives you the tools to plan your crops’ harvest from spring through post-frost. Raised beds and trellises allow for intensive planting, resulting in healthier bountiful plants, soil, and water conservation. With a bit of planning, your little petunia patch will be transformed into a stylish, yet productive year-round garden!

## **A View from my Window**

As the seasons change, please share your photos!

Email photos to Linda ([lindyc@davecornellcharters.com](mailto:lindyc@davecornellcharters.com)) or Laura ([LCampbell64@comcast.net](mailto:LCampbell64@comcast.net))

A sure sign of spring: Hungry Robins!

View from Linda's:





They then stopped at Susan Mead's:



and Sandy Hall's!

The view at Laura's during the January 2022 Blizzard:



The view at Beth Ladd's after the January 2022 Blizzard..What a difference a day makes!



A view from inside my window from Fran Levin:



## Tips & Tasks for the February Garden

### **FEBRUARY:**

- Put cut flowers around the house as a progenitor to spring.
- If perennials have been heaved out of the ground by frost, press them back down.
- Remove heavy snow from evergreens.
- Inspect trees to see if they could benefit from pruning. It is easier to spot broken or diseased branches without leaves.
- Now is the time to plan garden renovations, and place catalog orders.
- Make note of plants that have winter interest. Find out what they are and plan to add them to your garden when good weather returns.
- Sharpen tools, and organize while you're at it.
- Prune grape vines now. In warmer weather they will bleed.
- Start vegetable seeds this month or next in clear topped leftover take-home trays.
- Force some spring blooming twigs (fruit trees, forsythia, quince, dogwood, pussy willow) for indoor color. Bring them inside and allow them to sit in a large water filled vase.
- Keep bird feeders full.
- Wipe the leaves of indoor plants.

With thanks to: <https://www.andovergardenclub.org/a-new-england-garden-by-the-month>

### **In Memoriam**



TRIBUTE FOR TIMMY SHAPIRO  
(GCBB member 1977-2022 )  
Submitted by Ruth Furman

I joined the club in the twilight of Timmy's time with GCBB but learned early on that she was a past president, horticulture judge and "something" in the GCA – that distant, unknown organization GCBB was somehow connected to. At Timmy's gentle prodding and recommendation, I entered the judging program. Whatever club or flower show I clerked at or eventually judged other clubs' members would say, "Oh, you're in Timmy Shapiro's club, how is she, give her my regards." Whether on the judging circuit or later

in the halls of the GCA – many, many members knew Timmy, having judged with her or worked on GCA related projects with her and without exception commented on what an admirable person she was.

Some members shared their Timmy-memories:

**Betts Murray:** “....such a peach...a gracious, talented, intelligent person, with a lovely smile and laugh.” And she shared this last interview she and **Fran Levin** conducted:

FROM TIMMY SHAPIRO INTERVIEW, February 27, 2020

Timmy has had a wonderful association with the GCBB and the GCA, She and Gil enjoyed travel with the GCA over the years and have long term friendships from those associations. Timmy recalled her service of the Scholarship and Founders Fund committees, as well as travel as a judge and with the GCA Board of Associates. Timmy’s mother had a garden in Maine. Timmy’s own interest in gardening started when she and Gil moved to Hawthorne Street, New Bedford. Her first gardens were tomatoes and vegetables, then flowers. When they moved to Birchfield, in Dartmouth, in 1976, she got design help from Allen Haskell.

Timmy has happy memories of her GCBB membership, which she joined in 1977. Like other senior members, the greenhouse and the sherry at the greenhouse were highlights. Timmy’s advice: Don’t say no when the garden club asks you to take on a job!

From **Carolyn Willard:**

Timmy Shapiro and Betsy McBratney proposed me for GCBB in 2008– it was probably the high regard held for these horticulture powerhouses that caused no one to question that my primary gardening skill was pulling 20 years of weeds from my garden. From Timmy I learned an appreciation for succulents, as did many others, before they dotted every work desk and appeared in Pottery Barn catalogues. A question about one variety saw five “babies” and a book to appear on my doorstep. As I recovered from surgeries meals were delivered regularly, an example of her many kindnesses over the years. She adored her national GCA work and was eager to make sure GCBB members knew of the many resources available. I know she and Gil loved the GCA wonderful trips.

As her health deteriorated Timmy persevered, oxygen tank on her shoulder. She did not want to miss greenhouse, a board meeting or a monthly meeting. Sometimes Judi Sterns or I would be her driver but more often it was Gil, making sure she could participate. As I have my own physical limitations increase, I realize how determined

and passionate Timmy was about her interests. She was so proud of her Birchfield home and gardens and cherished GCBB.

**Judi Sterns** recalls:

Timmy enjoyed her succulents and orchids....and plants that she exhibited. She was happy with a Stewartia that she grew from seed and proud of the way Gil took care of his roses which he delivered in beer bottles!

**Peg Megowan** who joined GCBB in 1987 relayed:

“Efficient, charming and welcoming to a new member. After I became a judge, we spent lots of time together, frequently traveling together and sharing a room. We used to have a secret code when we shared a room in a tacky Boston motel as we had to start judging early in the morning. The last time we roomed together was at University Club in Milwaukee that had been my aunt’s club. Timmy was a great friend and mentor. She always set the tone of GCBB.

**Nancy Purdy** put it succinctly:

“a wonderful, wonderful person, genuine 24-carat who deserves every accolade!”

From her **Judging and GCA friends**:

“A dear friend”, “A wonderful woman and judge”, “.....have such fond memories of her”, “A wonderful member of Zone 1 and GCA and a mentor to many members, admired by all”, “She was inspiring over the years and I will miss her”, “A power house.....impressive, she will be missed”, “a special person, so much fun to work with”

In closing, with gratitude and esteem for all you have given to GCBB and beyond thank you for your graciousness, kindness and determined but optimistic spirit.

Ruth(ie) (what Timmy called me!)

## **Links of Interest**

From AGWeek: [The pandemic propelled gardening to new heights. Will the trend last?](#)

Looking for great resources on Companion Planting? Here you go!



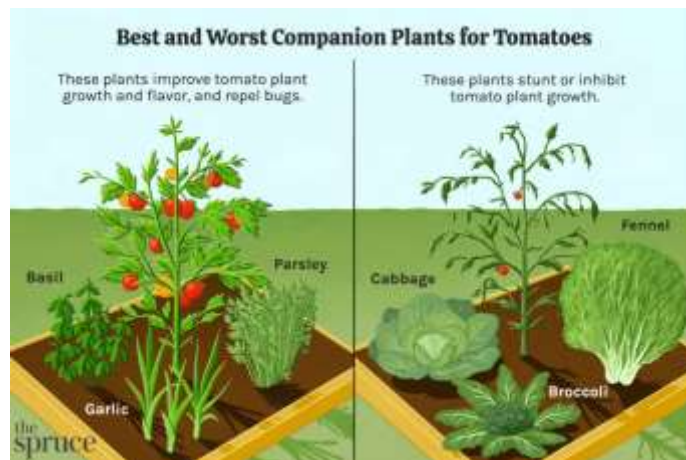
### What Is Companion Planting?

### A Guide to Companion Planting in Your Vegetable Garden

### Companion Planting Flowers and Herbs in the Vegetable Garden

### Attract the good bugs and repel the pests

### Best and Worst Companion Plants for Tomatoes:



Love a good Podcast? With podcasts from the U.S. and Abroad, there is something for everyone! Check out [Best 90 Gardening Podcasts](#)

## **Notebook Updates**

Please note that there have been some changes in the dates and arrangements for our 2022 meetings. **Please DO NOT use the information in your notebooks**, but rather this calendar:

**February Members Meeting - Thursday, February 17th at 10:30am** via Zoom

Speaker: Deborah Trickett, Owner of The Captured Garden

Topic: "Jaw-Dropping, Traffic-Stopping, Get Your Neighbors Talking Container Gardens"

**March Members Meeting - Thursday, March 17th at 10:30am** In-person/Zoom TBD

Joint Meeting with Little Compton Garden Club to kick off preparation for our 2023

GCA Flower Show. Ruth Furman Libby Moore of LCGC, Co-Chairs

**April Members Meeting - Tuesday (yes, Tuesday), April 26th at 10:30am (location TBA)**

Speaker: Adam Wheeler, owner of Broken Arrow Nursery in Hamden, CT

Topic: "Like It, Love It, and the Deer Won't Eat it" (plus plants!)

**May - Plant Sale at the RJD**

**Thursday, May 12th from 10-1:00 and 3-6:00**

**Friday, May 13th from 10-1:00**

**June - Annual Meeting, Thursday, June 16th at 11:00am** at the home of

Lisa Mellgard, 322 Smith Neck Road, South Dartmouth 02748

## **Fun Facts**

<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horticulture>:

**Types of horticulture:**

- **Olericulture:** the production of vegetables.
- **Pomology, also called fruticulture:** the production of fruits and nuts.
- **Viticulture:** the production of grapes (largely intended for winemaking).
- **Floriculture:** the production of flowering and ornamental plants.

Just for Fun



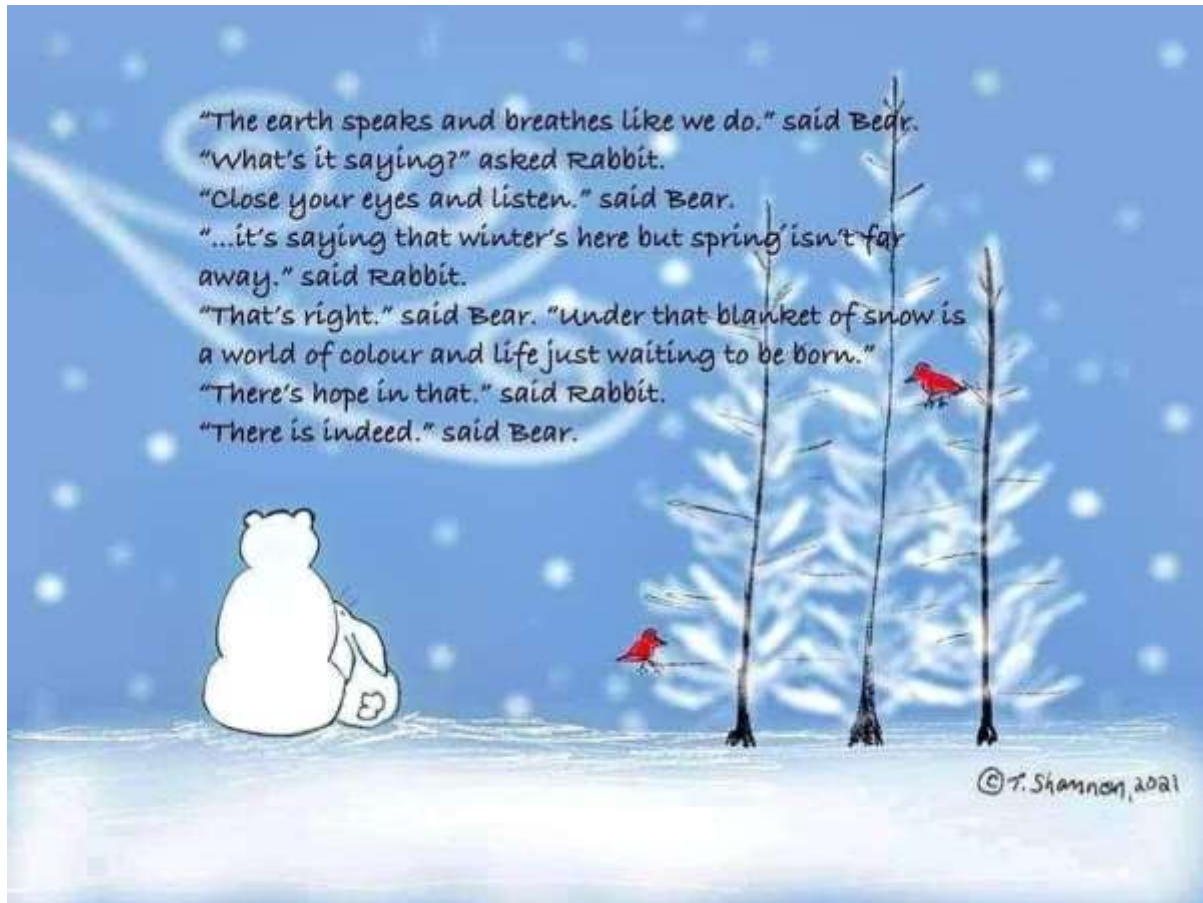
**SCREW IT!!**

**I'M GARDENING!**

## February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Greenhouse <a href="#">(Sign up online)</a>	<b>2</b> Groundhog Day 	<b>3</b> 10:30 January's GCBG Monthly Meeting (via Zoom) James Brayton-Hall	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	Greenhouse <a href="#">(Sign up online)</a>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Super Bowl LVI 	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day 	<b>15</b> Greenhouse <a href="#">(Sign up online)</a>	<b>16</b> Snow Moon 	<b>17</b> 10:30 GCBG Monthly Meeting (via Zoom) Deborah Tricket	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Presidents Day	<b>22</b> <b>2/22/22!</b> Greenhouse <a href="#">(Sign up online)</a>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Monthly Meetings:</b> - Thursday, February 3rd at 10:30 (via Zoom) (Rescheduled from January) Speaker: James Brayton-Hall, President and CEO The Garden Conservancy, "Celebrating and Preserving Beautiful Gardens in America" - Thursday, February 17th at 10:30 (via Zoom) Speaker: Deborah Tricket, Owner of The Captured Garden "Jaw-Dropping, Traffic-Stopping, Get Your Neighbors Talking Container Gardens"				

***A gentle reminder...***



*Until next time...*

